167 Amalfi, Italy, from the Capuchin Convent
Underwood & Underwood

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Stereoscopic Universal

You are looking east along the shore of the Gulf of Salerno. Away beyond Cape Alfeso, that farther headland, lies Ravello itself. Sicily is due south of your right. At your left the dead-and-buried city of Pompeii is only about ten miles away over the other side of those mountains.

The little town here is on record far back in the sixth century. For a while it was an independent state by itself with a sovereign duke and was recognized as one of the most important naval powers in Europe. At one time there were 50,000 people living here. But the restless sea undermined the shell of rocks where the town stood, and wave and storm ate away the shore till now only this bit of the once proud and powerful mediæval city remains standing close to the crumbling mountain side. Longfellow's familiar verses picture this very outlook which you have before you at this moment:—

"This is an enchanted land!
Round the headlands far away
Sweeps the blue Salernian bay
With its sickle of white sand.
Fathoms deep beneath the seas
Lie the ancient wharves and quays,
Swallowed by the engulfing waves;
Silent streets and vacant halls,
Palaced roofs and towers and walls—
Hidden from all mortal eyes
Deep the ruined city lies."

The building with the little light-house tower out there on the point is the present town-hall. Just above you can see the roof of a church where the ancient Doges of Amalfi were elected and where their bones were laid to rest.

Parts of this great height, where the old monks lived seven hundred years ago, fell into the sea in 1880, and more will some day follow.

See note to scene in Stereoscope, published by Underwood & Underwood.

Amalfi, Italy, from the Old Convent.

Amalfi, vue du Vieux Couvent, Italie.

Blick in Amalfi, vom alten Nonnenkloster aus

Vista de Amalfi desde el Viejo Convento, Italia.

Amalfi, Italien, vom alten Convent.

Вид на Амальфи, с видъ съ древняго монастыря.